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Warren election on May 4

No contested seats

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARREN – There are no contested seats in this year's Annual Town Election, which will be held on Tuesday, May 4, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., at the Shepard Office Building on High Street.

Selectman John Nason III chose not to run for re-election and Selectman Marc Richard chose to step down from his seat, and there are two candidates seeking their positions.

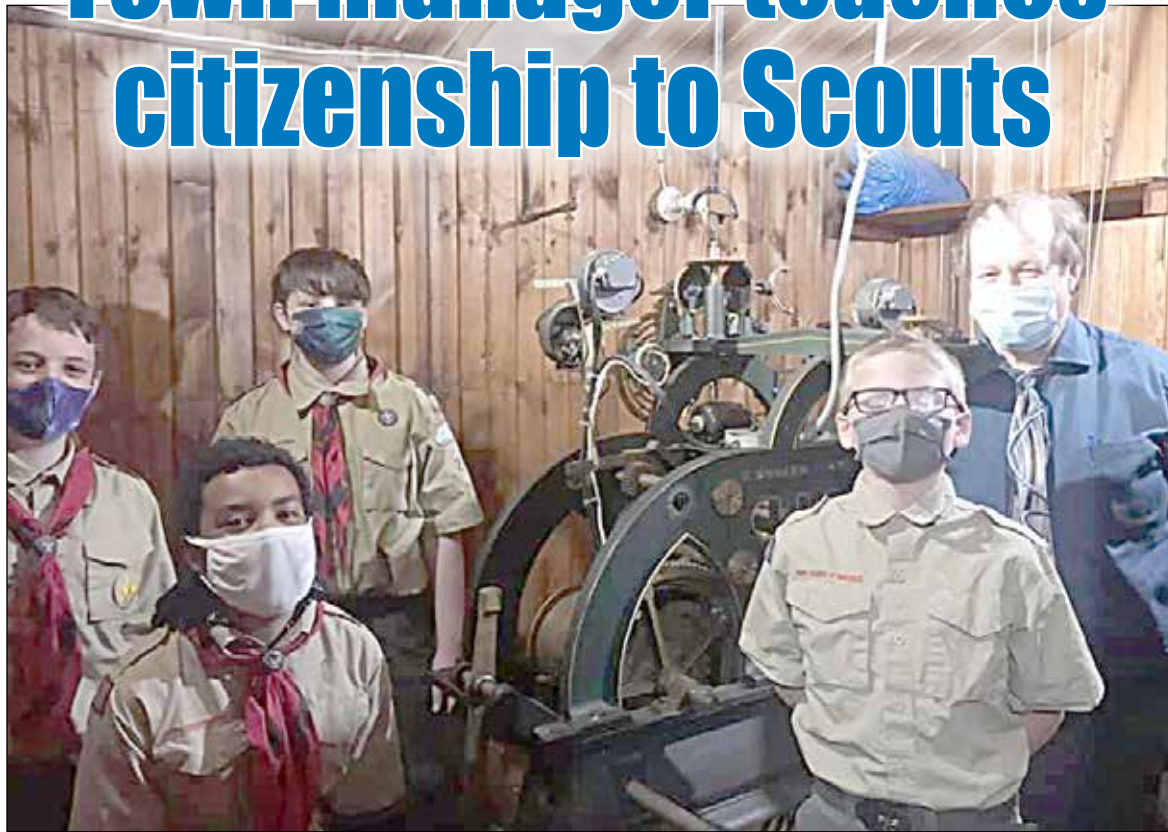
Richard J. Eichacker, of 59 Burbank Ave., is seeking Nason's three-year term, and Derick R. Veliz, of 237 Southbridge Road, is seeking to fill the remainder of Richard's term, which is one year. Both men serve on the Planning Board as does Selectman David Dufresne, who was elected to the board in last year's election.

Last year Dufresne asked for a ruling from the State Ethics Commission about serving on two boards and was told there was no conflict-of-interest in holding seats on both boards.

Jason G. Morgan, of 1138 Reed St., and Sarah D. Tetreault, of 122 Ware Road, are seeking re-election as Warren representatives on the Quaboag Regional School Committee, and Megan E. Sears, of 1336 Brimfield Road, is seeking to fill a one-year term on the committee. She has been filling the seat since David Kirk stepped down after moving out of town and she will

Please see **ELECTION**, page 5

Town manager teaches citizenship to Scouts



Troop 281 gets a look at different parts of the Town Hall as part of their Citizenship in the Community badge work with Town Manager Stuart Beckley.

Learning about town government

By Paula Ouimette
Staff Writer

WARE – Boy Scouts from Ware Troop 281 have been enjoying a behind-the-scenes look at how town government works with the help of Ware Town Manager Stuart Beckley. The Scouts are working toward earning their merit badge, Citizenship in the Community, something Beckley has been leading for the past six years.

"Merit badges are skill and learning-based requirements," said Troop 281 Scoutmaster Dan Flynn. "There are two types of merit badges: there is a type called Eagle Scout rank required, and also electives. Citizenship in the Community is Eagle required," he said.

Please see **SCOUTS**, page 5

DPH deems Mary Lane ER essential service

Requests additional information from Baystate Health

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARE – The Department of Public Health has deemed Baystate Mary Lane's satellite emergency facility an essential service, according to Baystate Eastern Regional President Molly Gray. "There were no surprises," she said Tuesday morning.

The topic came up briefly Tuesday at the Ware SelectBoard's meeting, when Town Manager Stuart Beckley said Gray had notified him of

the DPH's ruling. "This gives me hope," said SelectBoard Chairman Keith Kruckas.

Baystate Health has requested the DPH allow it to close the Mary Lane campus, and with it, the satellite emergency facility. The health care company announced its planned closure in late January, and a DPH public hearing to get community input was held by conference call on April 1.

Gray said last week that Baystate knew the emergency facility was an essential service and expected the DPH would rule that it was. She said DPH officials listened to the community on April 1, and accordingly, have

Please see **MARY LANE**, page 5

STM on Saturday to tackle water filtration plant

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARE – At its Tuesday meeting, a newly-reorganized SelectBoard went over the articles for the Special Town Meeting set for this Saturday, April 24, at 9 a.m., at the Ware Junior Senior High School football field. Keith Kruckas was voted chairman, John Morrin was voted vice chairman and Tom Barnes was voted the clerk.

The main topic at Saturday's meeting will be the proposed water filtration plant and how to pay for it.

The town's water supply is high in manganese and iron, which colors the water brown and black when it interacts with the chlorine in the system. The filtra-

tion plant would trap the majority of the particles in large filters, helping to provide clearer water. Tests have shown that the water is drinkable according to the state's water standards, officials have said, and the system's test results are on the Department of Public Work's webpages on the town's website. The new plant would be located at the Barnes Street Pumping Station property.

While Select Board members voted 5-0 to recommend voters appropriate \$13.3 million for the new water filtration plant, they were divided on other articles regarding how to pay for the plant.

The SelectBoard voted 3-2 on recommending articles about the plant including creating a stabi-

Please see **STM**, page 3

School budget settled, public hearing April 28

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARE – At their April 14 meeting School Committee members discussed the budget, federal COVID-19 funds, the Junior Senior Prom and the use of facilities by dance schools after school lets out.

School Superintendent Dr. Marlene DiLeo said the needs-based budget was a 3.7% increase over last year, with the town and schools proposals for the schools only \$81,446 apart. She said the School Department would be able to provide the difference.

She said the budget would focus on creating new offerings in spite of a very uncertain situation for state-level support. She said an additional paraprofessional was needed at the Ware Junior Senior High School as well as a continuation of a part-time technology position that helps out with Project Lead the Way at the Ware Middle School, and an effort to protect what is already offered students, would be the focus of the budget. The School Committee will hold a

hearing on the fiscal 2022 budget at its next meeting on April 28, when it will adopt a budget for the next school year.

"We need to prepare all students, and we have to fill in any learning gaps," she said. Ware as well as school across the country are trying to determine any learning gaps caused by a year of remote and hybrid classrooms, and find ways to plug the gaps.

ESSER grant funding

The committee also discussed Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund, usually referred to as ESSER funds, which have provided relief for school districts during the pandemic. It was created to help school districts pay for unexpected costs related to COVID-19, whether it be PPP supplies, additional technology and a range of other items.

DiLeo said ESSER II funds, which can be spent through September 2023, have been used to

Please see **BUDGET**, page 5

Hardwick, Barre discuss EMS coverage

By Paula Ouimette
Staff Writer

HARDWICK/BARRE – Hardwick Board of Selectmen vice-chair Julie Quink said she met with various representatives and fire chiefs regarding proposed emergency medical services coverage during the

board's April 15 meeting. Quink said the Ware Fire Department is not interested in covering all of Hardwick, just part of it. The Barre Fire Department could also provide partial coverage at a combined assessment of \$99,500. Quink said West Brookfield Rescue Squad is the only one interested in covering the entire

town. However, WBRS feels covering West Hardwick could be challenging with long response times. WBRS is only able to provide BLS services currently, not ALS. Quink said both Barre and Ware would continue to provide mutual aid.

Please see **COVERAGE**, page 6

Spring INTERRUPTED

Courtesy photo by
Raymond Lagrant

WARE – This tree on Monroe Street was right in the middle of beginning to bud when it started to snow last Friday, April 16. Hopefully, it will be the last snow of the season.



Demolition of Church Street property necessary

By Paula Ouimette
Staff Writer

HARDWICK – At their meeting held last Thursday via Zoom, Board of Selectmen Chair Kelly Kemp shared an email correspondence from Board of Health agent Marcelino "Tex" Sarabia regarding the proposed demolition of a condemned property located at 18-20 Church Street. Kemp said it appears there was a recent hearing regarding the property. Sarabia called in to the meeting and explained that the house is in receivership. A court representative did an inspection of the house and said it is beyond repair. Parts of the roof are falling onto the neighboring hair salon. The expected cost for demolition of that property is around \$30,000.

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SelectBoard will revisit vacant, blighted property bylaw

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARE – At its Tuesday meeting, the SelectBoard briefly discussed a new vacant and blighted property bylaw, which if approved, would replace an existing bylaw on vacant and unkempt properties that was passed at an Annual Town Meeting in 2014.

Health Director Judy Metcalf asked if all affected boards had reviewed the bylaw. “Is there a funding plan in place, a source of funds for demolitions and liens,” she asked. “Otherwise we’re going to be in the same situation we were in last time, unable to follow through to completion due to a lack of funds.”

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said the town has a progressive Finance Committee, which would look for ways to fund it.

Planning and Community Development Director Rebekah Cornell said it is hard to put a dollar figure on what is needed for the bylaw because there are wide range of properties. The demolition of 13 and 15 Parker St., which the town owns, cost \$50,000, but estimates to bring down 114 Main St., which is bowing out, are \$400,000 or more. It is possible Community Development Block Grants could be used for demolition, but Ware does not received the amount of money that other communities, such as Southbridge, receive, she said. Beckley said it might be possible to tap America Recovers money from the federal government.

The new bylaw would also require that a building that becomes vacant be registered with the town within 30 days by the owner, and it will cost the owner \$100 a year to do so. It also provides for higher daily fines for violations of the bylaw.

It was agreed that the proposed

bylaw would go before the necessary department heads and funding sources would be investigated before coming back before the SelectBoard at its May 4 meeting. It is hoped the bylaw could come before voters at the Annual Town Meeting on May 24.

114 Main St.

Beckley said that MassDOT and Ludlow Construction have said they will not do any work in front of the unsafe commercial building at 114 Main St. and have instructed the company putting in the electrical boxes for the new traffic signal at Main, West Main and West streets, not any in that would be in the way of the building coming down. MassDOT and Ludlow Construction are pushing for the building to come down.

Beckley said town counsel will attend the SelectBoard’s next meeting on May 4, so members can decide whether they want the town to go forward with demolishing the building. A Special Town Meeting vote on March 27 approved \$400,000 to bring the building down. The town has ordered the owner, 114 Main St. LLC, to demolish the building by Oct. 1, 2020, which did not happen. The owner’s lawyer and town counsel have been talking about the issue for several months.

Audit

Beckley said an independent financial and operation audit of town hall services such as the tax collector and other services, will go forward as there was funding approved for it at the Special Town Meeting on March 27.

An independent audit of the town’s finances occurs every year, but SelectBoard members want different town departments to go forward with a second independent audit. Three years ago such

an audit was done on the Fire Department and the SelectBoard has said it wants a different department to undergo such an audit every year.

East Street

Fixing the walkway in the East Street railroad underpass must be done by the town, according to MassDOT as the town is responsible for local roadways, Beckley said, but a design plan must first be created.

He also said MassDOT had closed the sidewalk on the East Street bridge over the Ware River due to its crumbling condition and separation from the bridge. He said hopefully the sidewalk will be fixed relatively quickly as pedestrians will now have to temporarily walk in the road.

Marijuana additions

After discussing using retail marijuana taxes the town receives to pay for the proposed Water Filtration Plant, Beckley said the SelectBoard could consider increasing the number of retail marijuana stores or removing a limit on them altogether if it wanted. No decision was made to pursue either of those options.

Appointment

The SelectBoard appointed Matthew Palladino to the Water Resources Committee.

Army Corps of Engineers

Beckley said the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would be inspecting the dams and dikes along the Ware River on April 21, and thanked the Department of Public Works for removing brush along the river in advance of the visit.

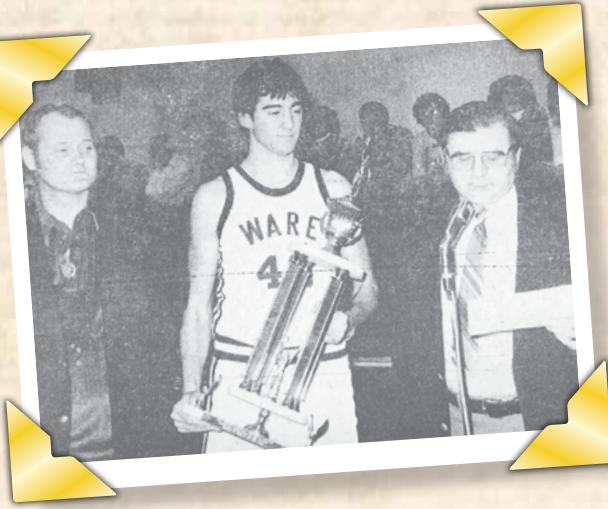
HEAVY SNOW PULLS LIMBS DOWN

WARREN – Resident Michael Moscatelli was outside at about 7 a.m. last Friday when he heard a limb break and saw it fall across the street with a loud pop and flash in front of 33 Quaboag St. His house did not lose power but there could have been a very bad accident on such a small, busy road during morning school traffic. Both the front and rear windows were damaged on this vehicle that was parked under the tree.



Courtesy photo by Michael Moscatelli

Are You Old News?



Last week’s photo showed the new officers of the Ware Assembly No. 71, Order of Rainbow for Girls, who were installed at a ceremony at the Masonic Lodge on Pleasant Street in Ware. They were left from right Marjorie Heck, Hope; Sharon Osborne, Faith; Mariellen Bate, Worthy Advisor; Diane Sojke, Worthy Assistant Advisor and Carol Witkos, Charity. This ran in the Oct 9, 1968 issue of the Ware River News.

If you can identify the people in this week’s photo please send the identification and your full name to ekennedy@turley.com.



Each week the Ware River News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured.

Email your answers by Monday at noon to ekennedy@turley.com.

The Centered Place offers student scholarship

WARREN – The Centered Place Yoga Studio of Warren will reward a deserving student of Quaboag Regional High School a scholarship of over \$1,000. The Centered Place aims to help support a student who wants to pursue a higher education so they can have a greater positive impact in the local community and world. The student will be selected based on financial need, the student’s activity in the school and community, and their own stated intentions.

The Centered Place regularly donates to local charities and causes. Toward the end of 2020, a guidance counselor at Quaboag Regional, Eric Urban, asked The Centered Place if it would be willing to offer a scholarship to one of the seniors. “We jumped at the opportunity,” recalls Phil Milgrom, co-director of the studio. “The way the political climate has been, and with all the social unrest as well as the anxiety and tragedy from the pandemic, we wanted to help in any way we could.”

He and Nancy Nowak, the other co-director and founder of The Centered Place, see this as an opportunity to make a difference. “Young people are our future. How this country ends up, and the whole planet by that matter, hinges mostly on the younger generation today” he said. “We

will choose a student who is highly motivated and cares deeply about the future.”

To become a candidate for the scholarship, students are required to fill out an application available at the school, provide three letters of recommendation and write an essay that answers the following questions:

What change the student would like to make in the world?

How would the student make that change?

What obstacles might be encountered along the way?

What major obstacle has the student overcome in his or her life and how will this help that student succeed?

The Centered Place is contributing \$250 toward the scholarship while the rest is being raised by clients and friends of the studio. A fundraiser is ongoing. To contribute, you can send a check to The Centered Place, P.O. Box 1210, Warren MA 01083-1210 (write “For QRHS Scholarship” on the memo line).

QRHS serves students from Warren and many other towns in the area including West Brookfield, Ware, Palmer, Southbridge, Monson and New Braintree.

Anyone with questions may contact Milgrom at 413 436-7374.

Too much to do? Ask to serve on the Historical Commission

WARREN – Got too much to do? Can’t fit in one more thing? Perhaps a change of scenery would help out. The scenery is something that people may see every day. Members of the Warren Historical Commission, come to see neighborhoods and the town in a different light. They find answers to some questions that may have long puzzled them, such as why does the road take a sharp turn here?, why is this house set so far back from the road?, where is the town’s most famous bridge? While some mysteries will be unraveled, others will remain puzzling.

For answers to some town mysteries, write a note to the Warren Selectmen and ask to be appointed to the Historical Commission. Or drop a line to sgbuck37@verizon.net and let her know of an interest to become a member. you’d like to become a member

Answers to those questions are: one, because a bridge was washed out on East Road; two, because something else was planned for the front of it, and three, it’s the so-called Whistler’s bridge, a double arch stone bridge built in 1839 for the brand new railroad to cross the Quaboag River. The bridge can be seen from Route 67 at the top of the hill just beyond the sewer plant in West Warren.

CORRECTIONS

In the edition of April 8, a student in a story on Ware Junior Senior High School participating in As Schools Match Wits was incorrectly identified. He should have been identified Noah Fales.

In the answer to the Are You Old News? in the edition of April 1, 2021, one person in the photo was incorrectly identified. His correct name is Chris Milton.

Baked Potato Takeout Fundraiser

to benefit Boy Scout Troop 281 Philmont Crew 2022



Saturday, May 8th
4:30 - 6:30 pm
ALL SAINTS CHURCH HALL
Ware, MA

\$8/person Advanced Sale
\$10/person at the door

Includes:
HUGE Potato, Drink & Dessert
and ALL THE FIXINGS:
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Bacon, Cheese, Chili, Broccoli

RAFFLE TABLE & 50/50
Winners will be contacted

TEXT OR CALL
Dan 413-297-5886 or
Paul 413-214-1776 or
EMAIL: scoutdad281@charter.net

All proceeds will go towards the crew’s trip to Philmont High Adventure Base in new Mexico

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Camp Putnum campers receive afghans

Local stitchers group makes them

By Ellenor Downer
Staff Writer

GILBERTVILLE – Every Thursday afternoon a group of women gather at the Gilbertville Public Library to knit and crochet. The group known as the Naughty but Nice Stitchers dates back 12 years. Chloe Moriarty, a member of the group and a library trustee for many years, has come since the beginning along with librarian Linda Payne, Evelyn LaBelle with 10 years, and Eleanor Czabaj, with five years. Newer members include Lynne Deschamps, Paula Abair and Paula Peloquin. Members not present last Thursday are Carol Reed, Connie Roxi, Claire Stelmokas and Susan Saletnik.

The afghan project consisting of between 45 to 50 items benefits campers at Camp Putnam in New Braintree. In response to why the group selected Camp Putnam, member Lynne Deschamps says, “It is the best camp around.” There is a need since the camp serves many campers, whose families are charged on a sliding scale. The camp never turns away a child, who cannot pay.

Heather Stewart, representing Camp Putnam, said if a camper comes without a blanket or sleeping bag, the camp has a supply of old Army blankets for him or her to use. Now campers, who need a blanket, receive an afghan and get to take it home with them. Stewart says, “They are thrilled to have them.”



Turley Publications photo by Ellenor Downer

Shown with some of the about 50 afghans knit or crocheted by members of the Naughty But Nice Stitchers, who meet at the Gilbertville Public Library on Thursday afternoons with Heather Stewart, representing Camp Putnam. Front row from left are Chloe Moriarty, Eleanor Czabaj and Evelyn LaBelle, and back row from left, Lynne Deschamps, Heather Stewart and Linda Payne.

“Camp Putnam will be open in some form this year, but will accept fewer campers this year,” Stewart said. The camp accommodates up to 25 campers in each of the four villages, two for girls and two for boys. It accepts ages 6 to 12 years old. “[It] is an old-fashioned camp,” Steward said, offering arts and crafts, sports and games, swimming in its pool and boating on the pond. It also has a day camp session in addition to the overnight sessions.

The ambitious stitchers also make mittens, hats, scarves and

even sweaters for children in Hardwick. The Naughty But Nice Stitchers, due to the pandemic, started up in August after the library closed from March to April. Librarian Payne says the Gilbertville Public Library is one of just a few libraries open.

The group can always use donations of yarn, used if clean or new. People may drop off yarn donations at the Gilbertville Public Library, Route. 32, during regular hours Tuesday and Thursday from 2 to 6 p.m. and Friday from 4 to 7 p.m.

Scout potato take-out fundraiser for Philmont High Adventure Base trip

WARE – Boy Scout Troop 281 Philmont Crew 2022 is hold a baked potato take-out fundraiser on May 8, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., at All Saints Church Hall on North Street.

The cost is \$8 per person for advanced sales and \$10 per person at the door. The take-out dinner includes a huge potato, with all the fixings, a drink and dessert. The fixings include but-

ter, sour cream, green onion, bacon, cheese, chili and broccoli. There will also be a raffle table and a 50/50 raffle, and winners will be contacted.

Text or call Dan at 413-297-5886 or Paul at 413-214-1776, or email scoutdad281@charter.net. All proceeds will go toward the crew’s trip to Philmont High Adventure Base in New Mexico.

ArtWorks exhibition celebrates all creatures great and small

WARE – ArtWorks Gallery, 69 Main St., presents “Reigning Cats & Dogs,” an art exhibition on display from May 22 through June 27. Artists are sought to display their animal-themed works. All media and skill levels are welcome. The cost is \$20 per entry, with no commission taken (cash or card accepted, no checks please). People’s Choice Awards will be given.

Two-dimensional works should be no larger than 16 inches by 20 inches and must be wired to be hung. Three-dimensional works should be no larger than a pug-sized dog.

Entries will be accepted by drop-off at the gallery on Friday, May 7, from 4 to 8 p.m., and Saturday, May 8, and Sunday, May 9, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

An in-person artist’s reception will be held Saturday, May 22, from 3 to 7 p.m. Exhibition hours will be May 22 to June 27 on Fridays, from 4 to 8 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays, from noon to 5 p.m.

For more information or people may visit workshop13.org for a printable entry form or contact ArtWorks Gallery at artworks@workshop13.org or 413-277-6072.

Nancy Curtis Scholarship available

WARE – Applications are now available for the Nancy Curtis Scholarship in the Ware, Palmer, and Belchertown Public Schools Guidance Department. Deadline

for completion of the application is May 15, and should be forwarded to Mrs. Sandra Piechota, 269 Palmer Rd., Ware, MA 01082.

Board reorganizes, Kemp now chair

By Paula Ouimette
Staff Writer

HARDWICK – The Board of Selectmen met on Thursday, April 15 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. This was the board’s first meeting since the town election last Monday. Member Julie Quink nominated Kelly Kemp as chairman. The board unanimously approved Kemp as chairman. Quink then nominated herself as vice-chairman and new board member Robert Ruggles as clerk. Both nominations were also unanimously approved.

Appointments

Gail Ann Anderson requested an appointed to the Parks and Recreation Committee for a two-year term, which would expire in 2023. The board approved this appointment.

Mayflower account quote

The Board of Assessors sent a letter recommending the acceptance of the Mayflower Personal Property Class 504 Account quote. The total cost of the services Mayflower will provide for fiscal 2022 will be \$1,800. The board accepted the Board of Assessor’s recommendation.

Eagle Hill PILOT agreement

Kemp asked Eagle Hill School Headmaster Dr. PJ McDonald if he was aware of this PILOT invoice agreement for fiscal 2021. McDonald said he is aware and all set. He said nothing looks out

of place, values have gone up, and they “get it.”

In-person meetings

Kemp said she sees other towns are beginning to have in-person meetings and wanted to see where the rest of the board stood on that. Ruggles said he would be in favor of in-person, for ease in handling paperwork. Comerford asked if virtual meetings would still be available. Kemp said they would do both. McDonald said the school has purchased Owl technology to assist with virtual meetings and would be willing to let the town use it. Quink said the town does have Owl technology as well. Quink said they should check with the Board of Health regarding in-person meetings. Quink said they should also learn how to use the Microsoft Teams platform.

List of ‘moving targets’

Quink said Town Administrator Theresa Cofske helped compile a list of “moving targets,” or issues the town will be facing in the future. One of the things Quink wants is to have is more collaborative meetings with other boards and committees. Finance Committee Chair Cheryl Wolfe said they will be meeting the last Monday in April to discuss the fiscal 2022 budget. They will have a joint meeting on Monday, April 26, at 5:30 p.m.

Another item on the list included the USDA grant for the sewer project. She said she will check in with Cofske about any updates. Ruggles asked the board if they thought they should talk with

McDonald about the school’s response. Kemp said they did agree to meet with each other and both counsels. Quink said she feels hopeful they can move forward quickly. McDonald agreed they needed to move forward together and welcomed conversation with the board. Wolfe reminded those present that there are rules that the selectmen abide by as far as meeting publicly. Kemp said she would follow up with Cofske. Erik Fleming recommended to Kemp that one of the board members contact town counsel directly.

ATM date

Town Clerk Ryan J. Witkos suggested to have an annual town meeting only, as there was no real need for a special town meeting. The date will be Saturday, June 19, at 9 a.m.

Community Host Agreements

Comerford asked if the Planning Board could receive copies of marijuana Community Host Agreements when the town receives them. The Planning Board did not have a copy of the CHA for a recent community outreach meeting by Budding Botanicals.

Agenda

A resident commented that the agenda posted online with the meeting link, was different than the one they shared in this meeting.

Hardwick Recycling offers bulk waste and textile collection, April 24

HARDWICK – For those who are starting to clean out their homes, attics, barns, garages, basements, closets and other areas and need a place to bring those items, the Hardwick Recycling Center can help. Just load it all up and bring the items to the center’s Bulk Waste & Textile Collection Event being held on Saturday, on April 24, from 8 a.m. to noon at the Hardwick Recycling Center. The center is located at 2011 Barre Road in the village of Wheelwright.

It is not necessary to be a Hardwick Recycling Center patron to participate in this event. This event is open to all residents of Hardwick and surrounding towns. So, for those who are not patrons of the center, take some time while at the center to check it out and speak with staff to see the other services it offers.

Reduce trash costs

Those who pay by the bag for trash removal may find using the recycling center decreases the amount of trash, significantly reducing the cost for trash removal each year. Many of those who have curbside recycling services have chosen to remain or become patrons of the recycling center so they can recycle the hard to manage items (electronics, appliances, tires, motor oil and other items) every day the center is open for operation throughout the year, instead of having to wait for a collection event to be held in their community.

Bulk items, textiles

Please note, there are fees per bulk waste item, tires, electronics, appliances, fluorescent bulbs and oil filters to cover the cost of hauling and processing.

Not only is it possible to get rid of those bulky, broken/ruined items, such as recliners, chairs, couches, mattresses, sinks, toilets, entertainment centers, suitcases, fencing and bulky styrofoam (bagged), it is also possible to bring in broken electronics, TVs, appliances, light bulbs, ballasts (PCB/non-PCB containing), thermometers, tires, used motor oil, used, scrap metal and textiles.

Some examples of textiles are: rags, clothing, socks/stockings, towels, linens, book bags, backpacks, pocketbooks, shoes, sneakers, boots, belts, pillows, blankets, fabric pieces/rolls, ribbons, yarns and laces. There is no need to worry about holes, stains or socks and footwear missing their match. The only criteria for the textiles are that they are clean and completely dry.

Swap shed

The center also accepts items in its swap shed at no cost. Those items must be clean and in good working order. Some examples for the swap shed are books, audio books, CDs, cooking ware, dinnerware, knick-knacks, wall hangings, picture frames, children’s toys, tools, sporting equipment, board games, puzzles, spools of yarn and thread, curtains, bedding and shoes and boots. There is no cost to bring those items in. Recycling Center staff will inspect the items before allowing people to drop them off.

PLEASE NOTE: We cannot accept any electronics/TV’s for drop off at the swap shed.

Come early as there is only one container for bulk waste. Once it is full we will not be accepting more bulk waste items until the fall.

Please contact the center at 413-477-8330 or visit the website www.hardwickrecycles.org for further information and pricing of bulk waste items and hard to manage items.

Trinity Church welcomes spring

WARE – Trinity Episcopal Church welcomes spring with a free planting session on Saturday, April 24, from 10 a.m. to noon, on the church grounds at the corner of Park and

Pleasant streets. The church will provide vegetable and flower seeds as well soil, planters and other material to the first 10 people who call 413-967-6100. Take home and watch them grow.

STM from page 1

lization fund to pay for the project, accepting state law to allow the stabilization fund and dedicated money, and an article that would dedicate 100% of revenue raised from the town’s local tax on retail marijuana to the filtration plant stabilization fund. Morrin and newly-elected SelectBoard member Caitlin McCarthy voted against recommending those three articles.

Morrin has said in the past the water users should pay for the filtration plant and McCarthy said last night she wasn’t sure 100% of the marijuana taxes should go toward paying for the new plant.

The town will have to borrow the \$13.3 million, but how those debt payments will be paid remains to be seen. It could be funded entirely by increases in water rates or by higher rates and other methods such as using retail marijuana taxes or other taxpayer money.

Town counsel also recommended that voters approve an additional \$7.3 million to the \$6 million approved by Town Meeting voters several years ago for the project, according to Town Manager Stuart Beckley. Doing so would mean the previous vote of \$6 million would not have to be rescinded.

Unrelated articles

The SelectBoard recommended two other articles during their Monday meeting. One is approve the spending of \$72,000 to fix drainage issues and make ball field repairs at Grenville Park. A grant for \$50,000 was received from the state and the town will spend about \$22,000 on the project.

The second article is to release an easement the town has at 127 Church St., which was originally from Sept. 7, 1938. It was taken to do some water system work that was never done and will now revert to the homeowner.



The Ware River News will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 3. To request a correction, send information to ekennedy@turley.com, or call 967-3505. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Ware River News, Attn: Editor, 80 Main St., Ware, MA 01082.

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Grand Opening of our Fudge Counter
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9 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 22

Flea Market
9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 22, June 19 and July 24
Bring your tables and enjoy Minuteman Kettle Corn
and Hot Dogs! \$20 set-up fee.

Let's Get Local
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 28
Support the local farms at our Farmer's Market
with businesses, wineries and breweries!
Music by Your Mother will rock our stage.
Snack Bar and Minuteman Kettle Corn. Bring the
family and make some memories with us and
support your local farmers and businesses.

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EDITORIAL

Earth Day and Arbor Day:

Get inspired for the environment's sake

Last week's annoying snow storm notwithstanding, spring is rounding the home stretch to full bloom and many of us look forward to spending more time outdoors. And right on cue, Earth Day is April 22 and Arbor Day is April 30.

It's as good a time as any to pause and reflect on the environment and what each of us can do to be good stewards of our Mother Earth. Even better than thinking about it is doing something to make a difference. There are so many things each of us can do that helps. Just turning off the lights in unoccupied rooms, switching to LED bulbs and fixing dripping faucets are simple, positive actions we can all do in the name of sustainable living. For those who don't mind getting down and dirty, planting a tree is a gift to the environment that keeps on giving (get more information about appropriate trees for our area at arbor-day.org).

A river clean-up event planned for last Saturday was postponed because of the nor'easter and has been rescheduled for May 8. Circle the date and simply show up at 9 a.m. at Laviolette Field in Three Rivers (for more information, contact Sarah Fortune at 413-626-7084 or sfortune@townofpalmer.com).

Homeowners can take advantage of an offer by the The Great American Rain Barrel Company to purchase a rain barrel at a wholesale price of \$79. This is unquestionably one of the best things you can do for the environment because rain barrels not only conserve water, but also prevent contaminated runoff from reaching our rivers and streams. To order, go to greatamericanrainbarrel.com/community/ and select "Springfield" under community programs.

- Want more earth-friendly tips? Consider:
- Checking thrift shops for things you need before purchasing new.
 - When you do buy things, scrutinize packaging and try to avoid what can't be recycled or isn't biodegradable.
 - Plant a garden to attract butterflies and bees.
 - Compost your food scraps rather than throw them in the trash.
 - Take reusable bags to the supermarket.
 - Consider walking or bike riding rather than taking the car, when possible.
 - Clean up after your dog during walks or even in your own yard (again, the runoff issue).

That's just a small, random sample of the many things all of us can do to help protect the environment many of us cherish and all of us depend on. Showing care and concern for the environment shouldn't be confined to Earth Day and Arbor Day. But if you're someone who hasn't given much thought to the environment and what you can do to make a difference, there are no better days to start.

Tell Us What You Think

Share your thoughts and suggestions with our staff and your fellow readers. Participate in our opinion pages, or contact us anytime with your feedback!

Ware River News
Your Community Newspaper

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Enjoy Earth Day while rethinking your gardening practices

Die-hard gardeners celebrate Earth Day year round, I feel. We take pleasure in our yards and the bounty our gardens produce. But when the formal holiday of April 22nd approaches, I pause, analyze my own practices and make sure they are still in tune with my beliefs. While not a purist, I generally try to tread lightly on Mother Earth. I encourage you to take inventory this week as well, and if so inspired, adopt some of the following ideals borrowed from previous columns and add them to your own routines.

Feed the soil, not the plant. Have your soil tested and ask for organic recommendations to correct nutrient deficiencies. Replenishing your garden with amendments like rock phosphate and greensand will help to create long-lasting nutrient storehouses. Healthy soil will produce plants that are less prone to insect and disease problems.

Start a compost pile. Layer your vegetable and yard waste, keep it moist and give it a turn; after a few days turn it again. After a short time it will decompose, leaving behind a great source of organic matter. No matter how you garden, be it vegetables, flowers, herbs, fruits or even shrubs, each benefit from a yearly top dressing of "black gold."

Make compost tea. Are your transplants looking a little pale? Rather than sprinkling them with "blue water," perk them up with home-brewed compost tea. Mix one part well-rotted compost or manure to five parts water and allow it to sit for a week or more. Strain before foliar feeding your plants. Or,

take a cup of the manure, pop it in a square of muslin and let it steep in a five gallon bucket. Fill your watering can no straining necessary.

Shop Mom and Pop. Develop a relationship with the garden center you buy your plants and gardening supplies from. Ask them to carry organic seeds, potting soils and pest control options. A friend of mine pestered one local company so much that they now carry everything I mentioned above as well as organic livestock feed.

Reduce, reuse, recycle! I first became familiar with this catch phrase back in 1990, when Earth Day celebrations went global. In the context of plastic pots and other containers used to grow or move plants, I'd like to think that the local Mom and Pop shop would take back the pots you bought their plants in and use them to grow next years crop. If not, maybe you could reuse them to start some homegrown seedlings and recycle the rest. I sure do, and when they get old and tattered I double them up! An even better solution for earth-conscious growers would be to replace plastic with fiber (stronger than peat and made from recycled materials to boot).

Use the least toxic measures to control bugs and other garden thugs. Beer to trap slugs, and baking soda for black spot, the list of remedies to fight garden maladies is numerous and not always a stretch of the imagination. If you choose a chemical option, follow the manufacturer's recommendations. Assuming that more is better is outdated and dangerous thinking! We especially worry about our pollinator populations these days.



ON THE GARDEN

Roberta McQuaid

Conserve water. We all know that watering during the heat of the day results in lots of moisture lost to evaporation while watering in the evening can make plants more prone to disease. What to do? For happy, hydrated plants water in the early morning hours instead. Hand watering at the base of each plant or using soaker hoses or drip irrigation is far better than overhead sprinklers when it comes to conservation and disease prevention.

Extend the harvest. Do you know how far most fruits and vegetables have to travel to reach the local supermarket? Probably far more than the average American travels in a year's time. Frustrated? Then read up on various methods of extending the use of your own garden bounty past the growing season. This could mean growing a few veggies like winter squash, onions or garlic, all of which store well. It could also mean trying your hand at freezing or drying some of your produce for use in the offseason. I just thawed out some roasted peppers for dinner tonight. It is a good feeling. Few of us can feed ourselves entirely, but whatever we can grow offsets the rest.

Enjoy Earth Day while rethinking your gardening practices.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

When can I get benefits from my ex-spouse?

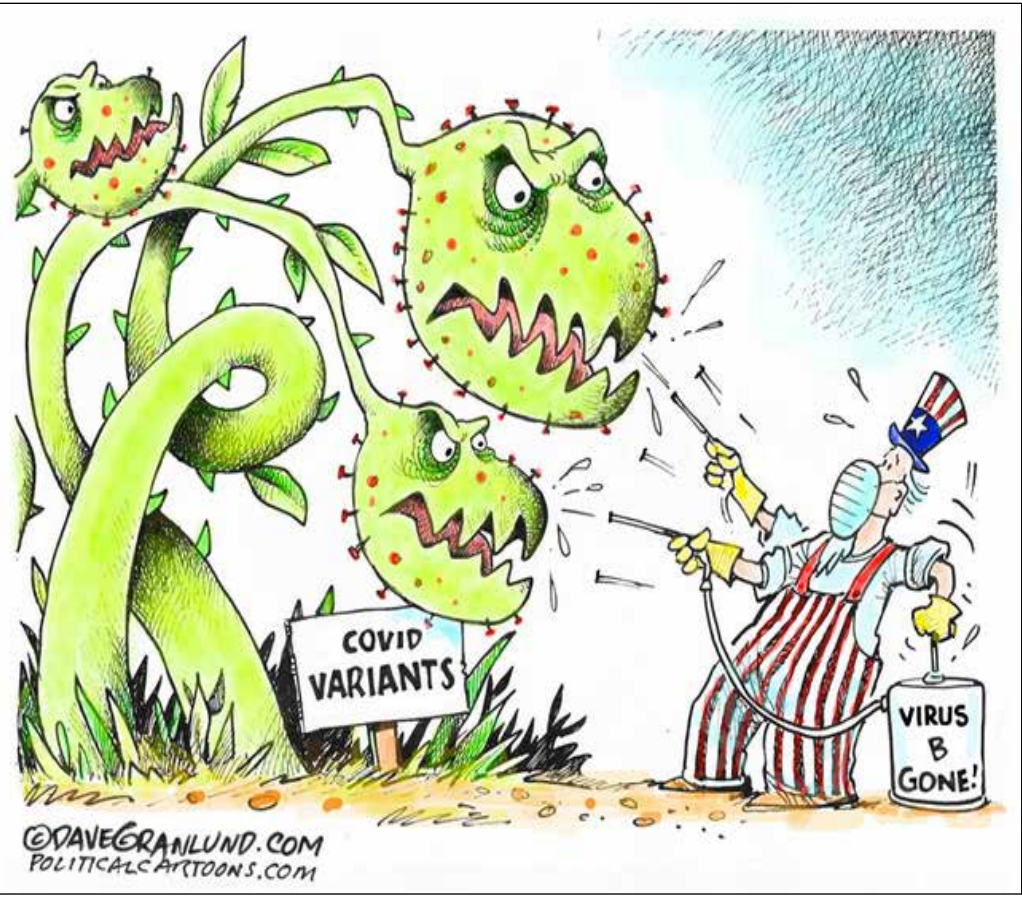
By Russell Gloor
Guest columnist

Dear Rusty: I know that I am able to get Social Security from my ex-husband. We were married for 16 years and I have not remarried. I will be 60 soon and he is 63. I do not know if he is retired yet, as we do not speak. Please advise when I can collect and how to go about the process. *Signed: Divorced Lady*

Dear Divorced Lady: Since you were married to your ex for more than 10 years and haven't remarried, you may be able to collect a spousal benefit from your ex-husband when you are 62-years-old. Your eligibility will depend upon the amount of your own personal Social Security benefit compared to your ex's benefit amount, but you cannot collect an ex-spouse benefit before age 62. To be eligible for a benefit from your ex-spouse, you must also claim your personal Social Security from your own lifetime work record, and when you claim your own benefit, an ex-spouse benefit will be given, if you are entitled to one.

To be eligible for a benefit from your ex-spouse, your personal Social Security retirement benefit at your own full retirement age (FRA) must be less than 50% of the benefit your ex-husband would get at his FRA (note that FRA amounts are used for this determination, regardless of the age at which either of you claim Social Security). If your FRA benefit amount is less than half of his FRA benefit amount, then you will be entitled to a "spousal boost" to bring your total payment up to your spousal entitlement. But taken at age 62, both of those amounts will be reduced.

Your full retirement age is 67, and if you claim any Social Security benefit before that it will be reduced. At 62, your personal Social Security retirement benefit will be cut by 30%



and your spousal boost will also be reduced. So, at age 62, the total amount of benefit you could get (your own benefit plus your spousal boost) would be about 32.5% of your ex-husband's FRA benefit amount. Nonetheless, if you are comfortable with these benefit reductions, you can claim at age 62, or any age thereafter, by contacting Social Security or, when the time comes, apply online at www.ssa.gov/applyforbenefits. You will need to provide Social Security with a copy of your marriage certificate and your final divorce decree, and you will need to know your ex-husband's Social Security number. If you do not know his Social Security number, you'll need to provide his parents' names and his date and place of birth.

If you wish to find out in advance whether you're entitled to an ex-spouse benefit and how much it is estimated to be, you can contact Social Security at 1.800-772-1213, or call your local Social Security office. You can find the local office number at www.ssa.gov/locator. Please note that all Social Security offices are temporarily closed to public access

due to the pandemic, so calling them is your best current option to get an estimate of your spousal benefit.

One final caution: if you claim Social Security before your full retirement age and you are working, you'll be subject to Social Security's "earnings test" which limits how much you can earn before they take back some of your benefits.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

WARE RIVER NEWS

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Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and "Your Turn" guest column between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

Send opinions to:
Ware River News
Letter to the Editor
80 Main Street
Ware, MA 01082
or via email to:
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The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

2021Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.

IN MY BACKYARD

By Ellenor Downer

The male brown-headed cowbird is a stocky blackbird and as its name implies has a brown head. They are smaller than the red-winged blackbird. The female is brown, lighter brown on the head and underparts with streaking on the belly. She also has a dark eye, short tail and conical beak.

Cowbirds are infamous for laying their eggs in other birds' nests. The female cowbird notes when a potential host bird lays its eggs and when the nest is left momentarily unattended, the cowbird lays its own egg in it. The female cowbird may continue to observe this nest after laying eggs. Some bird species have evolved the ability to detect such parasitic eggs and may reject them by pushing them out of their nests, but the female cowbird has been observed to attack and destroy the remaining eggs of such birds as a consequence, dissuading further removals. Cowbirds lay eggs in over 100 species of birds.

This week I watched a male cowbird on the



Brown-headed cow bird

Courtesy photo

ground under my feeder strut and display for a female feeding on the ground. I first saw the pair March 31. The male arrived first and then the female. It was also the case with the red-

winged blackbirds with the males appearing earlier than the females.

Courting behavior

On April 10 I looked out at the feeder. The male cardinal was in the tray feeder and the female was in a nearby branch. He flew over to female and passed her a sunflower seed. It won't be long before they raise a brood and I will see the parents feeding their young seeds by my feeder.

With the black bears out and about, I only put a small amount of seed in the tray every morning. I was taking in my suet feeder for the night, but I ran out of suet cakes.

Great blue herons

On April 3, I watched two great blue herons land in the back part of the beaver pond, which abuts my hayfield. A few days later one flew over my house when I was taking care of my

chickens.

Juncos

I still see a few juncos in my yard, but there are not as many as there were during the winter. Soon, they will be heading north to Canada for the breeding season.

Canada geese

I saw two Canada geese in my hayfield next to the beaver pond. Every year, a pair or two of geese raise a family there. Geese also raise families in the beaver pond on the other side of the road.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.



United Church of Ware volunteers brought turkey dinners out to peoples' cars this past Monday.

UCW provided tempting turkey dinners

WARE – United Church of Ware, 49 Church St., offered a take-out only, drive-through turkey dinner this past Monday. Diners could drive up to the Church Street side of the church building and a runner came to their car to take their meal order. Meals were then delivered to the car.

A volunteer takes turkey dinners to diners at a drive-through meal at the United Church of Ware.



SCOUTS from page 1

Over the course of two to three months, the Scouts will learn what it means to be a good citizen in their own community. Some of the requirements to achieve this badge include attending a town meeting, preparing a discussion about a town-wide issue, and learning about the services their community provides that are funded by the taxpayers.

Beckley meets with the Scouts each week in the Great Hall of Ware Town Hall. As a merit badge counselor, “we teach about the organization of local government. The roles of townspeople, elected officials, and departments. We try to show who makes decisions, make sure the Scouts know their community, whether it be a town, an organization like Scouts, or a team. I highlight that no matter the chosen community, it is important to participate,” Beckley said.

Flynn said his troop is honored to have Beckley as a merit badge counselor. “A merit badge counselor is someone that has a strong knowledge of the specific requirements of a particular merit badge. There are 138 merit badges to choose from, ranging from environmental science to railroading to personal fitness,” Flynn said. “Mr. Beckley has a natural way about him, communicating the understanding of being involved in a community and he is an excellent teacher and mentor to the Scouts.”

Beckley has also shared his knowledge of civic involvement

with the Webelos of Ware Family Pack 520 during their Zoom den meeting as part of their Build a Better World requirement. He encouraged them to think of ways they can help their community by being involved in projects. Beckley asked the Webelos about their thoughts on a youth center and what they would like to see at one. Answers ranged from swimming pools to video games, with each Webelo excited by the prospect of their voice making a difference.

Beckley recognized the importance of Scouting, not only to build a stronger community, but to empower the youth of today. “Scouting is important as an activity for youth, both indoors and outdoors, but is also important in the values it instills in the Scouts. It is very satisfying to see the growth in Scout character over the years,” Beckley said.

“Our Scout program has benefitted greatly from a lot of local involvement for merit badge counseling. People that make up the Ware community, including the Fire Department, teachers from local schools, and both business and civic leaders, have worked to make our program successful and meaningful,” he said. “When I earned this merit badge over 40 years ago, it was one of my favorite merit badges to earn. My dad, a longtime selectman in my hometown of Hampden, was actually my merit badge counselor. One long-range benefit from this particular merit badge, is if the Scout were to continue and down the road go for



Scout Troop 281 members climb up into Town Hall's bell tower as they learn more about their town and its government.

his Eagle Scout rank award, his project would reflect a much deeper understanding of its impact on his own community,” he said.

Scoutmaster Flynn credited Beckley's involvement as a merit badge counselor with building better informed citizens for the community in the future.

“What better way to start engaging the community than starting them while they are young and can grow to be more involved in their community,” Flynn said. “Troop 281 is lucky to be able to experience this level of community involvement and spirit in Ware's own Great Hall.”



Scouts from Troop 281 take a look at a big map of Ware in Ware Town Hall.

MARY LANE from page 1

asked for additional information around several points.

Since it has been categorized as an essential service, Baystate Health must provide the DPH with a report on how it will work to mitigate the loss of the service to Ware.

The DPH asked for more information about how Baystate is communicating with local officials around the closure and what can be done about the lack of transportation in the Ware area. During the hearing state elected officials, including state representatives Todd Smola and Donnie Berthiaume and state Sen. Anne Gobi, said communication by Baystate had been

very bad. Local officials also said communication had been poor, but Gray has said the company has kept local officials in the loop. She said Baystate Health told officials several hours before a public announcement was made in January.

The DPH also wants to know how Baystate might mitigate the increase in transportation times since ambulances will have to travel 10 miles more to Baystate Wing in Palmer, particularly in light of work to begin this year on a complete rebuilding of the Three Mile Bridge on Route 32 in Ware.

The DPH has also asked for confirmation of the emergency facility's utilization data. Ware Fire Chief Christopher Gagnon has said

that the ER's utilization numbers are higher than Baystate's numbers. Baystate estimated about three patients a day arrive at Mary Lane's emergency facility, but Gagnon his numbers from Ware alone were higher, and other EMS providers also use it on a daily basis.

Baystate must also provide more information on how it will provide services to Ware area patients in behavioral health crises with the closure of the emergency facility.

“Behavioral health is near and dear to our hearts,” Gray said. She said when Wing build a new emergency department several years ago, it included a four-bed behavioral health pod as part of the new space.

Local residents and state and

local elected officials also requested the DPH consider having Baystate postpone the closure by a year to give Ware and area towns time to plan for the closure of Mary Lane's emergency services. It isn't clear whether the DPH is considering that request.

Gray said she has been in touch with Beckley, and Baystate has approved a tour of the Mary Lane building by him, accompanied by a small group of other people, next week. Town officials have been in touch with other health care companies, some of which have expressed a potential interest in the facility. Officials have declined to identify which health care companies might be interested.

ELECTION from page 1

be elected to fill the remainder of his term.

Also on the ballot are Suzanne R. Ramsey, of 1341 Coy Hill Road, for a three-year as Park Commissioner, Kathleen M. Czub, of 475 South St., for a three-year Assessor term, Francis H. Beaudry Jr., of 23 Pine Grove Drive, and David A. Johnson, of 82 Quaboag St., both seeking three-year Sewer Commission terms, and Margaret E. Bernard and Maryanne Potrzuski, both of Winthrop Terrace, seeking

five-year terms on the Housing Authority, and Jeremy R. Olson, of 50 Reynolds Road, who is seeking a three-year term as tree warden.

Also seeking election are Charlene T. Farris, of 331 Brimfield Road, for a three-year Board of Health term, Edward F. Londergan, of 90 Bragg Road, for a five-year Planning Board term, William A. Brunk, of 127 Manning Road, for a three-year as Cemetery Commissioner, and Steven C. Cristol, of 128 Dunham Road, for a two-year term as Cemetery Commissioner.

BUDGET from page 1

hire staff to help with the social and emotional needs of students who may be suffering from issues after being taught remotely or partially in-person through the hybrid model. Students have had a lot less in-person contact with other students and their teachers over the past year and need help. The money is also providing professional development to teachers regarding interventions for students, both with social and emotional needs as well as academic issues.

The money will also be used to pay for summer school and 21st Century summer activities, and transportation, to help students with academics, she said.

ESSER III grants, which can be spent through September 2024, will likely go toward additional staff to help students who may be behind academically. Helping students may include classes with a wider range of abilities, with additional staff.

School Committee Chairman Christopher Desjardins said he had wanted to see some “real big ticket fixes” in the plans for spending ESSER funds, such as building up the technological infrastructure of the buildings or making HVAC repairs. “I think in some ways we're missing out,” he said of a focus on personnel that may only be with the district for a couple of years as the academic gaps are closed.

“We need bodies to deliver interventions,” DiLeo said. “We have to identify student needs and get that accomplished. It's not going to be a quick fix; it's going to take a few years to recover.” Ware will receive \$2.6 million in ESSER III funds and is still working on a needs assessment to determine how it should be used.

School Committee member Michael Foran suggested that the head of facilities be asked for a list of what he would do physically if there additional money to spend. She said she would confer with a state official counsels districts on what items ESSER money can be used.

Junior Senior Prom

The School Committee approved a junior senior prom for May 5 at Zukas in Spencer, with certain restrictions. Ware Junior Senior High School Principal Gene Rich said he would have a meeting with students

and have them sign an agreement. There will be social distancing, mask-wearing and no slow songs played. There will be tents with no sides to allow part of the prom to be outside. Only WJSHS students will be allowed and set list of chaperones will attend, he said. Instead of 12 students per table it will be six students, he said, and there will be a seating plan to help with contract tracing if necessary.

There will also be no promenade this year. There will be videographer who will film each student as they arrive and all students participating will receive a copy of the video, he said.

He said the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education recommended not having proms

this year, and if they were held, they should be after graduation, but school officials thought the May 5 to be the best time to hold it.

“Students have missed out on a lot and we wanted to do something for them if we could do it safely, and we believe we can,” he said.

Facility use

The School Committee approved going forward with dance recitals in the high school auditorium after school is out for the year, assuming the dance schools submit detailed COVID-19 safety plans. The cost for each event will be individually determined based on

how many days it will be used and how much time the compliance officer has to spend going over the plan. The compliance officer will be Thomas Shamgocian as he has had a lot of experience overseeing COVID-19 safety measures for numerous sports games as the district's athletic director.

“What you have here on the committee is a group of people who really want to make this work for the studios and the kids for that matter,” said Desjardins. He said the district did not want to make money on any of the events, they just wanted to make sure the schools were not going to have to spend money on the events.

Send Us Your Summer Event Information

Turley Publications will print your summer calendar listings FREE OF CHARGE in our SUMMERFEST Supplement which publishes early June.

Deadline for submissions is May 4th.

Community Summer Events

Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public

FREE Calendar Listings Reaching over 200,000 Readers in the Pioneer Valley

Event Name _____

Date/Time _____

Location _____

Description _____

Cost _____

Contact name & phone number for more information _____

Please specify if you would like your name and number printed in the paper.

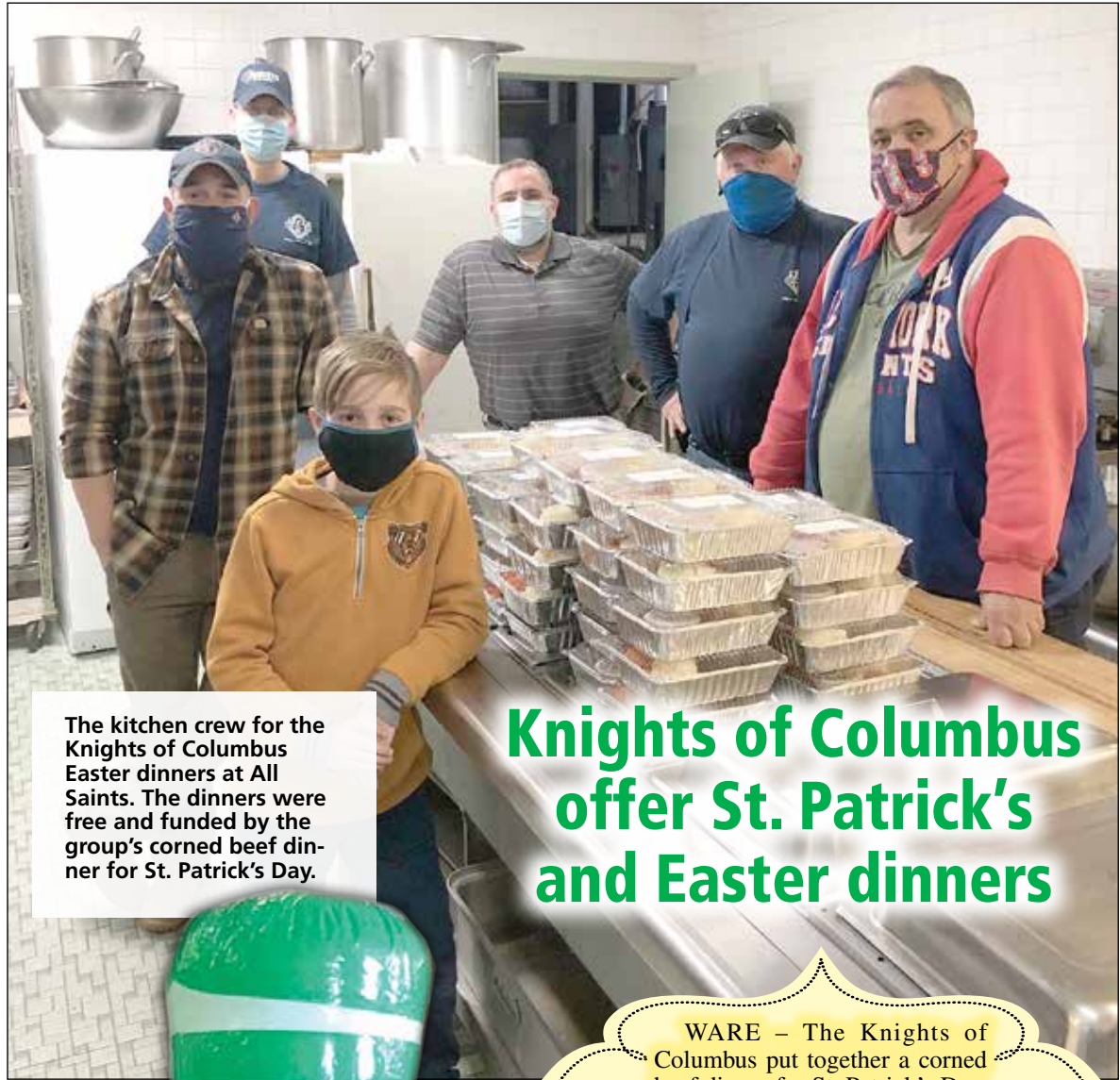


SEND US YOUR SPORTS PHOTOS

Have you taken photos at a local sports event and want to see them published in this paper? Email your image(s) with description to:

sports@turley.com

CLIP OUT AND MAIL TO:
Turley Publications, Attn: Jamie Joslyn, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069
or email* them to: jamie@turley.com
***Be sure to indicate "Summer" in the subject line of your email.**



The kitchen crew for the Knights of Columbus Easter dinners at All Saints. The dinners were free and funded by the group's corned beef dinner for St. Patrick's Day.

Knights of Columbus offer St. Patrick's and Easter dinners

WARE – The Knights of Columbus put together a corned beef dinner for St. Patrick's Day, and used the proceeds to give out Easter dinners. Both meals were take-out only.



Knights of Columbus member Bill Blodgett greets people picking up their corned beef dinners at All Saints Hall.



A Knights of Columbus member oversees the corned beef being cooked for the St. Patrick's dinners the group offered.

Local organic farmers to host workshop

BARRE – Many Hands Organic Farm will be hosting a workshop regarding organic small fruit production on Saturday, May 8 from 10 a.m. to noon at the farm on Sheldon Road. Participants will learn seed starting and planting protocols from greenhouse to hoophouse to field. They will start seeds inside, plant in the field and also spend some time on the theories and practice. Registration is available on the Many Hands Organic Farm website at mhof.net/events-workshops.

DEMOLITION from page 1

Sarabia said the condemned building next to it, the former "No Place" bar, should also come down but they will need to notify the owner of that property that a lien will be placed on it due to non-payment of taxes. Sarabia said he needs a "green light" from the board to proceed with tax taking on the "No Place" building. Quink asked who was responsible for the payment of the demolition. Sarabia said since 18-20 Church Street is in receivership, the town was responsible for costs and would end up owners of the lot.

Sarabia said the "No Place" building is larger, but less dangerous to demolish. Sarabia said he was unsure how long it would

take the town to have ownership of the "No Place" property through tax taking. Kemp said they cannot take any demolition action on the "No Place" property since it had not gone through tax taking. Quink said they can have their financial team and town counsel get started on the tax-taking process. Sarabia said they could install a temporary roof at the 18-20 Church Street building to secure it, extending their timeline for demolition if they wanted to try to demolish both buildings together and save costs.

Quink said they will also have the building inspector assess the building. Kemp said she will follow up with Town Administrator Theresa Cofski and the financial team regarding the process. Sarabia said KP Law wants to move on this process. Harry Comerford suggested the lots remaining after the buildings are demolished could be sold for parking. He said in the past, the owner of Regin's Garage was interested in the space for parking.



Sofie Vanilla Cookie wore her Sunday best to the book sale offered by the Friends of the Paige Memorial Library.



Ann Barnes helps Hardwick's most popular canine, Sofie Vanilla Cookie, raise funds to support the Friends of the Paige Memorial Library at their book sale this past weekend. The books sale was held Saturday and Sunday at the Town House.



Residents browsed a large selection of books made available for purchase by the Friends of the Paige Memorial Library.

COVERAGE from page 1

Quink said they would meet with Barre's Board of Selectmen on April 20 to discuss possible coverage. Quink said she asked Ware if they would consider looking at their proposal again, and that Ware Town Manager Stuart Beckley said it would not be a significant reduction in cost.

Quink said dispatch for Hardwick is currently provided by C8 (State Police) in New Braintree and that Barre Fire Department is dispatched through Rutland Regional Emergency Communication Center. She said there is good communication between C8 and RRECC, so dispatching should not be an issue.

Police Chief James Ayotte asked the board if they had call volume information from Ware, noting that if the call volume to West Hardwick was low, could that possibly reduce the cost. Quink said Ware would be covering both West Hardwick and Gilbertville, so they would still be covering most of the calls. Quink said almost \$100,000 for EMS is a significant cost for the town and could be challenging. Quink said WBRS would be significantly less for the town, but they could run into coverage issues.

Quink said Town Administrator Theresa Cofski is working with USDA on potential grants to get ambulance service back in town.

Meeting with Barre's board

The Hardwick board met with the Barre Board of Selectmen on Tuesday, April 20, at 7:15 p.m. via Zoom. Barre Chairman Greg O'Sullivan said many of the roads in Hardwick are difficult for Barre to respond to. New Barre board member Dr. Maureen Marshall said her concern was being able to cover their own town and New Braintree, in addition to Hardwick. Barre Town Administrator Jessica Sizer said that Fire Chief Robert Rogowski was unable to attend the meeting as he was on vacation.

Quink told the Barre board that Hardwick has been without an ambulance service of their own for about four years. She said they were approached by Ware years ago and entered into an agreement, with EMS services assessed at \$60,000. Quink said their current assessment is \$77,000 and there has been a lot of "healthy discussion" about what is best for Hardwick for about a year. She said Ware is only interested in covering West Hardwick and Gilbertville, and she is "hoping Barre would consider partnering with Hardwick," and cover the rest of the town. O'Sullivan asked if Quink knew the percentage of calls covered by insurance and Quink said she would ask for that data from Ware.

Both O'Sullivan and Marshall

expressed concern about being able to provide services to their own residents plus Hardwick's with only two ambulances. Marshall noted that many roads in Hardwick, particularly Shunpike and Old Petersham, were difficult to travel, especially in winter. Marshall said there was also the added strain of Mary Lane Hospital closing this year.

Sizer said Rogowski recognizes that Barre provides service to Hardwick already and would like to make it a formal deal. Sizer said she is trying to secure a rapid response vehicle through grants to assist in emergency response. Quink said Hardwick is also considering getting a "fly car" to help respond to emergency scenes. Sizer said Rogowski's main concern with a potential partnership with West Brookfield Rescue Squad was the fact it can only provide BLS and they are not in a neighboring town. Quink said Ware will still provide mutual aid regardless of the direction they take.

The Barre board said they would talk with Rogowski about how this would affect his staffing. Quink said they would like to have an agreement in place by July 1 and hope that Ware will "hang in" with them until they do. "Time is of the essence, but it needs to be a good fit for everybody," Quink said. Both boards agreed to meet on May 3, and include Rogowski in the conversation.

**Uh Oh
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it is now?!**

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SPORTS

Ware continues success against bigger schools



The Ware offense lines up for a play.

Photos by Melina Bourdeau

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WARE—The Ware football team has only lost two games at Veterans Stadium during the past four years. They won both of their home games this season.

After playing three consecutive road games, the Indians returned home and celebrated senior day with a 22-12 victory over Northampton before a large social distanced gathering, last Saturday afternoon.

“Everyone on the football team has worked very hard this season,” said Ware senior quarterback Dillon Slattery. “It feels amazing to win our final home game.”

Slattery, along with classmates Devin Henry, Myles McGrail, John Soltys, Shawn Santiago, Rockeem Handfield, Keith Smith, Jack Tweedie, Austin Mascroft, Aiden Clark, and Dominic Velazquez were honored during a pregame ceremony. Jenna Fox, who’s the only senior on the cheerleading



Shawn Santiago makes a tackle for the Indians.

squad, was also recognized.

“I’m very happy for our seniors because we beat a quality opponent today,” said Ware head coach Mike Fazio. “When I took over as the head coach, the seniors committed to my program right away. It’s a great group of kids and we’re really going to miss them a lot next year.”

Smith, who suffered a right thumb injury in the season opener against Belchertown, was originally expected to start at quarterback. Please see **FOOTBALL**, page 8



Phillip Fox dives for a tackle.



Andrew Soltys heads to the right side on a run.



Quarterback Dillon Slattery rears back to make a pass.

Cougars gets win over Monty Tech

Conversion, kicking the key

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

WARREN – The Fall 2 season continues for the Quaboag Regional High School football team, which barely got past host Monty Tech on Saturday, April 10 in Fitchburg.

Tyler Withers made all the difference for the Cougars as his two extra point kicks were what Quaboag needed to get a 14-12 win.

Quaboag got a huge insurance touchdown in the third quarter, responding to Monty’s first scored of the game.

Brendan Burke scored for the second time in the game as he broke free for an 18-yard run to score. Withers came on and was able to successfully get his second point-after kick of the game, making the score 14-6.

With about two minutes remaining in the game, Monty Tech was able to drive and score again, making it 14-12. Quarterback T.J. Farr had no choice but to go for a two-point conversion in an attempt to tie the game. His pass failed and Quaboag was able to run out the clock to get the victory and lift the Cougars to a 2-2 record on the shortened season.

Burke scored Quaboag’s other touchdown in the first quarter, finishing a drive with a two-yard run. Withers got the point-after kick to make it 7-0. The score stood through halftime and into the third quarter before Monty Tech was finally able to answer back with a touchdown. Monty Tech does not have a kicker, and tried for a two-point conversion on that score as well.

Quaboag will play one final game against Narragansett on Saturday, April 24 at 4 p.m. The game will be played on the artificial turf at Gardner High School.

Ronnie Williams looking for another title run

SEEKONK – Two years ago, Ronnie Williams became the second driver not named Matt Hirschman to win a Tri Track Open Modified Series presented by All Phases Renovations championship. In 2021, he looks to do it again.

Williams, driving for veteran car owner Gary Casella, returns to Tri Track driving the familiar No. 25 he’s taken to Victory Lane before, and hopes to be consistent enough to contend for the title at the end of the six-race schedule.

“Gary can be a clown when you’re around him, it’s fun,” Williams said. “If you look at Gary, you might not think he can set up a race car... but every single place we go, we are fast. He wants to win, I want to win... and we just work well together.”

Williams is set for another busy year as a driver, competing full-time chasing his third SK Modified championship at Stafford Motor Speedway, while also running with the Tri Track Series and some select NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour and Open



Submitted photos

Modified events. Over the last three years, Williams has become one of the quickest and most successful rising stars the Modified ranks in New England offers.

“It’s fun,” Williams said of all of his driving ventures. “It’s better when we are winning... last year we didn’t have as much success as we would have liked, but hopefully this year we can turn it back around and have some more fun.”

Tri Track will visit three New England race tracks in 2021 -- Monadnock Speedway, Star Speedway and Seekonk Speedway. Williams has previous wins at Monadnock and Seekonk, but has yet to hold the checkered flag at Star.

“I don’t have a ton of laps at Star but I love it,” Williams said. “It’s a weird little track. We almost had a win there in the SBM when Ron Silk beat us, which was a great race. It’s one track that both Gary & I really want to win at this year. Hopefully we can get it done.”

Williams knows the competition is going to be stout, and the path to wins, or the championship, will not be easy with Tri Track.

“You have a guy like Matt Hirschman racing and a lot of people from a lot of different parts of New England coming to run with Tri Track,” Williams said. “It provides some of the best racing and brings the best drivers.”

The Tri Track Open Modified Series presented by All Phases Renovations season begins on Saturday, May 1 at Monadnock Speedway. For more information on the Tri Track Open Modified Series, visit TriTrackModifieds.com and follow the series on social media.

Premier Lacrosse League coming to Gillette

FOXBOROUGH – The Premier Lacrosse League (PLL) powered by Ticketmaster announced today that the league will return to Gillette Stadium to kick off the 2021 season with an opening five-game slate June 4 through June 6.

“There’s no better location to kick off our 2021 tour than Gillette Stadium,” said PLL Co-Founder and CMO Paul Rabil. “Our inaugural weekend in 2019 was a huge success. The fans in New England are passionate, and the Patriots organization is exceptional.”

The PLL season will begin at Gillette Stadium for the second time, getting underway with a primetime matchup between Cannons LC and Redwoods LC under the lights on Friday, June

4. Saturday’s slate includes a championship rematch between Whipsnakes LC and Chaos LC, followed by Archers LC taking on Atlas LC. On Sunday afternoon, Cannons LC will return to the field against Waterdogs LC, and the weekend will be capped off with a matchup between Chrome LC and Redwoods LC.

The PLL is a tour-based model featuring eight teams and the world’s best lacrosse players. In addition to being full-time employees and receiving health benefits, players get equity stakes in the league – a first in professional sports. The league recently announced a merger with Major League Lacrosse, leading to the addition of the PLL’s eighth

lacrosse club, Cannons LC.

The 2021 PLL season will include 11 tour stops from June to September. For the third consecutive year, PLL games will be distributed via an exclusive media rights agreement with NBC Sports Group with action being shown through a combination of NBC, NBCSN, and Peacock TV.

The PLL played its inaugural weekend at Gillette Stadium in 2019, and had announced plans to open the 2020 season at the home of the six-time Super Bowl Champion New England Patriots and New England Revolution before COVID-19 forced the

Please see **LACROSSE**, page 8

MIAA tourney activity picking up

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – It has been a rarity for a team from Western Massachusetts to qualify for the Division 1A tournament, a special tournament for select elite teams in various sports.

A lot of questions have been raised about the future of the Division 1A tournament now that the state is going to a statewide tournament and eliminating the sectional tournaments.

Last Thursday, the Tournament Management Committee met to discuss the subject.

The Division 1A tournament will likely be delayed until 2025

in order to allow the MIAA and its various sport committee to compile four years of data under the new structure.

Division 1A tournaments are dependent on the sport, and not all sports hold one. Hockey, basketball, soccer, and baseball and softball are among the sports that could possibly hold tournaments. The 1A tournament has been held for hockey in previous years with Pope Francis, previously Cathedral, taking part in the tournament often.

Baseball has also been a sport that has had a 1A tournament in recent years, with many of the state’s elite teams qualifying to play in it. The teams that qualify

often would abandon their section tournaments to participate in the 1A event.

According to the proposal made to the TMC, any approved 1A tournament must have a format that includes selection and seedings using the same power-rating/ranking system that is used for the other tournaments.

Recently, as part of the move to go to a statewide tournament, Maxpreps was secured to organize tournaments and collect information for rankings for state tournaments. Maxpreps is expected to use a formula to compile power rankings in order to see

Please see **MIAA**, page 8

public safety

Ware Police Log

Monday, April 12
5:32 a.m. Alarm Burglar West Street – Services Rendered
6:07 a.m. Alarm Burglar Palmer Road – Services Rendered
6:56 a.m. Alarm Burglar Palmer Road – Services Rendered
9:19 a.m. Stolen Vehicle Report South Street – Services Rendered
11:28 a.m. Parking Complaint North Street – Citation Issued
11:46 a.m. Fraud North Street – Services Rendered
1:42 p.m. Ambulance Request Pleasant Street – Services Rendered
1:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Church Street – Criminal Complaint Issued
1:58 p.m. Ambulance Request Monson Turnpike Road – Services Rendered
3:45 p.m. Alarm Burglar Laurel Drive – Services Rendered
3:58 p.m. Ambulance Request West Street – Services Rendered
8:24 p.m. Ambulance Request North Street – Services Rendered
9:13 p.m. Ambulance Request Valley View – Services Rendered
11:05 p.m. Ambulance Request North Street – Referred to Other Agency

Tuesday, April 13
8:41 a.m. Fraud North Street – Services Rendered
8:47 a.m. Ambulance Request Highland Village – Services Rendered
9:45 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation East Street – Written Warning
7:02 p.m. Harassment Complaint Warebrook Drive – Advised Civil Action
7:05 p.m. Ambulance Request Vigeant Street – Referred to Other Agency

Wednesday, April 14
8:33 a.m. Abandoned, 911 Call Cummings Road – Services Rendered
9:28 a.m. Suspicious Activity/Person Palmer Road – Investigated, Report Filed
10:17 a.m. Abandoned, 911 Call West Street – Services Rendered

Thursday, April 15
5:56 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Gould Road – Citation Issued
11:31 a.m. Fire, Report Smith Avenue – Services Rendered
1:19 p.m. Alarm Fire West Street – Services Rendered
2:41 p.m. Alarm Burglar Fisherdick Road – Services Rendered
3:16 p.m. Ambulance Request Morse Avenue – Services Rendered
3:51 p.m. Accident, Vehicle Church Street – Services Rendered
3:56 p.m. Ambulance Request School Street – Services Rendered
4:45 p.m. Accident (Hit and Run) Vernon Street – Motor Vehicle Accident Over \$1,000
5:58 p.m. Accident, Vehicle West Street – Services Rendered

Friday, April 16
12:12 a.m. Ambulance Request Towne Street – Referred to Other Agency
5:24 a.m. Ambulance Request Church Street – Services Rendered
5:40 a.m. Ambulance Request Belchertown Road – Services Rendered
8:13 a.m. Accident, Vehicle Babcock Tavern Road – Motor Vehicle Accident Under \$1,000
1:44 p.m. Ambulance Request South Street – Services Rendered
2:48 p.m. Ambulance Request Church Street – Services Rendered
6:12 p.m. Burglary/Breaking and Entering Monson Turnpike Road – Investigation Pending
6:14 p.m. Abandoned, 911 Call Walter Drive – Services Rendered
6:24 p.m. Accident (Hit

and Run) Gilbertville Road – Investigated, Report Filed
8 p.m. Abandoned, 911 Call West Street – No Police Service Necessary

Saturday, April 17
1:40 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Belchertown Road – Written Warning
9:43 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation East Street – Written Warning
10:03 a.m. Abandoned, 911 Call North Street – Services Rendered
11:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation North Street – Citation Issued
12:18 p.m. Missing Person West Main Street – Services Rendered
12:59 p.m. Alarm Burglar West Street – Services Rendered
1:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation East Street – Written Warning
3:55 p.m. Shoplifting Main Street – Area Search Negative Find
4:27 p.m. Harassment Complaint Coffey Hill Road – Services Rendered
5:28 p.m. Investigation Monson Turnpike Road – Investigated, Report Filed
11:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Warren Road – Written Warning

Sunday, April 18
8:45 a.m. Abandoned, 911 Call East Street – Area Searched Negative Find
9:52 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Pulaski Street – Written Warning
10:10 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation East Street – Written Warning
10:55 a.m. Larceny, Theft Report Woodland Heights – Investigated, Report Filed
11:30 a.m. Ambulance Request West Main Street – Referred to Other Agency
2:01 p.m. Ambulance Request Coffey Hill Road – Referred to Other Agency
2:17 p.m. Ambulance Request Grove Street – Referred to Other

Agency
6:39 p.m. Ambulance Request Maple Street – Referred to Other Agency
9:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Warren Road – Citation Issued
10:12 p.m. Fire, Report West Main Street – Referred to Other Agency

Monday, April 19
10:01 a.m. Ambulance Request Glendale Circle – Referred to Other Agency
7:48 a.m. Ambulance Request Burlingam Road – Referred to Other Agency
9:47 a.m. Hang-up, 911 Call Dugan Road – Services Rendered
2:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Street – Written Warning
4:50 p.m. Fraud North Street – Investigation Pending
4:57 p.m. Abandoned, 911 Call Dale Street – Services Rendered
5:43 p.m. Erratic Operator Complaint Eagle Street – Citation Issued
10:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Warren Road – Arrest, Misdemeanor Charge
Arrest: Kyle A. Derrick, 25, West Brookfield
OUI-Liquor or .08 %;
Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle; Lights Violation; Right Lane

Tuesday, April 20
12:33 a.m. Ambulance Request Parker Street – Services Rendered
8:09 a.m. Abandoned, 911 Call Cummings Street – Services Rendered
9:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Church Street – Written Warning
9:50 a.m. Larceny, Theft Report Greenwich Plains Road – Services Rendered
2:09 p.m. Ambulance Request Aspen Street – Services Rendered
2:48 p.m. Ambulance Request Berkshire Circle – Services Rendered
3:17 p.m. Ambulance Request Pleasant Street – Services Rendered

Warren Police Log

Monday, April 12
4:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Southbridge Road – Written Warning
5:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
5:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
6:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued

Tuesday, April 13
6:48 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Town Farm Road – Criminal Complaint
Summons: Kevin T. McQueeney, 32, Warren
Registration Revoked, Operate Motor Vehicle With; Uninsured Motor Vehicle; Unregistered Motor Vehicle
11:10 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Southbridge Road – Citation Issued
11:25 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Southbridge Road – Citation Issued
2:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire Bemis Road – Fire Extinguished
2:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire Bragg Road – Fire Extinguished
4:92 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop

Elm Street – Written Warning
7:06 p.m. Fraud Comins Pond Road – Officer Advised
7:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
11:27 p.m. Fire, Investigation North Street – Investigated

Wednesday, April 14
8:55 a.m. Unconscious/ Unresponsive/ Syncope Richardson Street – Transported to Hospital
10:37 a.m. Threats Keys Road – Officer Spoke to Party
12:38 p.m. Fraud/Forgery Knox Trail Road – Report Filed
1:55 p.m. Unattended Death Brimfield Road – Investigated
4:22 p.m. Threats Keys Road – Information Given
11:16 p.m. Breathing Difficulty Main Street – Transported to Hospital

Thursday, April 15
2:03 p.m. Serve Warrant Ware Road – Arrest(s) Made
Arrest: Andrea M. West, 51, West Warren
Warrant
4:44 p.m. Sick/Unknown Milton O. Fountain Way – Transported to Hospital

6:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident Main Street – Report Filed

Friday, April 16
5:54 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
2:59 p.m. Falls Washington Street – Ambulance Signed Refusal
3:59 p.m. Harassing/ Annoying Phone Calls Pulaski Street – Officer Spoke to Party

Saturday, April 17
5:50 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
5:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
6:20 a.m. Breaking and Entering Past Auto/Motor Vehicle Southbridge Road – Officer Spoke to Party
9:22 a.m. Breaking and Entering Past Auto/Motor Vehicle East Road – Report Filed
9:38 a.m. Stolen Vehicle Reed Street – Report Filed
9:51 a.m. Breaking and Entering Past Auto/Motor Vehicle Comins Pond Road – Report Filed
2:06 p.m. Breaking and Entering Past Auto/Motor

Editor’s Note: People in this country are presumed to be innocent until found guilty in a court of law. Police provide us with the information you read on this page as public record information. If you or any suspect listed here is found not guilty or has charges dropped or reduced, we will gladly print that information as a follow-up upon being presented with documented proof of the court’s final disposition.

Vehicle Nelson Street – Investigated
4:07 p.m. Breaking and Entering Past Auto/Motor Vehicle South Street – Officer Spoke to Party
9:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
10:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Boston Post Road – Citation Issued

FOOTBALL from page 7

inally supposed to miss the rest of the football season. Those plans changed after he made a doctor’s visit.

“When I went to see my doctor, he told me that everything looked perfect. They put a hard cast on my arm, which allowed me to play in today’s game,” Smith said. “It was killing me when I was standing on the sideline with a headset on during the past couple of weeks. We haven’t lost too many games on this field and it’s an honor to play football with all of the other seniors.”

Ware (4-1), who defeated Belchertown, 37-8 at home on March 20, have posted an impressive 17-2 record at Veteran’s Stadium since the start of the 2017 campaign. The Indians were shut-out by Belchertown in the first

game of the 2018 regular season. They also lost a shootout to Hoosac Valley at home in 2019.

Smith, who became a member of the elite 1,000 club during his final high school basketball game, is planning to continue his football career at Worcester State University.

“The Worcester State football coach (Adam Peloquin) usually calls me a couple of times a week,” Smith said. “I’m looking forward to going to school there and being a member of the football team.”

The Indians eleven seniors are scheduled to play in their final high school football game at Smith Vocational on Friday afternoon.

It was the Indians first ever meeting on the gridiron with the Blue Devils (2-2), who qualified for the Western Mass. Division 5 playoffs a year ago.

Smith made an impact defen-

sively on the first play of last Saturday’s game by sacking Northampton quarterback Ben Sledzieski.

The Blue Devils were forced to punt a couple of plays later and Slattery guided the Indians offense on a 16-play scoring drive, which lasted ten minutes.

Handfield, who saw limited playing time against the Blue Devils due to an injury, carried the ball six times for 32 yards during the Indians first offensive possession. Slattery and junior Andrew Soltys combined to carry the ball eight times. They also hooked up for a 28-yard pass reception.

On the first play of the second quarter, Andrew Soltys took a direct snap from sophomore center Camren McCormick and scored a touchdown on a four yard run up the middle.

“We couldn’t have asked for

a better start of the game,” Fazio said. “The opening drive was a huge momentum swing for us.”

Andrew Soltys, who’s one of the eight juniors listed on the Ware football roster, also caught a touchdown pass from Slattery on the two-point conversion play.

Smith recorded another sack ending the Blue Devils next offensive series.

With 7:01 remaining in the first half, Slattery, who completed four of his five passes for a total of 145 yards, threw a pass to a wide-open Andrew Soltys in front of the Ware sideline. He then sprinted into the end zone completing the 86-yard scoring play.

“Andrew told me in the huddle that there wasn’t anyone covering him,” Slattery said. “When we got into the formation, I noticed that, and I called for a quick snap. I then chucked the ball up the field to him

and he ran for a touchdown. It was just an awesome play.”

Henry added the extra point giving the Indians a 15-0 lead.

Two minutes later, Tweedie blocked his first ever punt in a football game at any level. Sophomore Phillip Fox fell on top of the football at the Blue Devils 3-yard line.

After Slattery called his own number on the first down play, he scored on a one yard run on the following play.

Henry, who joined the Indians football team after being a member of the boys’ soccer team last fall, added another extra point making the score 22-0 with 4:23 left in the first half.

Northampton, who outscored their previous two opponents, 69-8, ended the Indians shutout hopes late in the first half when freshman Mykal Norriss dashed into the end zone on a six yard run.

A pass attempt on the two-point conversion play was incomplete.

A three yard TD run by senior Brett Holden sliced Northampton’s deficit to 22-12 with 3:34 remaining in the third quarter. Another pass attempt on the conversion play was incomplete in the end zone.

The Indians offense responded with a 13-play drive, which came to an end inside the five yard line a little more than three minutes into the final quarter.

The Blue Devils also failed to score a touchdown on their final possession of the game.

Slattery took a knee on the final play of the contest.

The Ware seniors took several pictures following the game.

The returning Indians players will be looking to extend the six-game home winning streak in September.

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Turleysports

Shawn Santiago Athlete of the Week

WARE HIGH SCHOOL

Santiago is a senior member of the Ware football team, and made a great tackle for the Indians last Saturday against Easthampton.

To nominate someone for Athlete of the Month, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.

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ARBELLA

INSURANCE

LACROSSE from page 8

adjustment of the season to a three-week quarantined and fanless tournament. Gillette Stadium has also hosted five NCAA Men’s Lacrosse Championships since 2008 and holds the NCAA Men’s Division I Championship attendance record (2008: 48,970), the top three attendance records for Division I National Championship Games since 2012 (2012: 30,816, 2018: 29,455 and 2017: 28,971) and the top three Division II and Division III National Championship attendance records (2017: 31,560, 2008: 24,317 and 2009: 24,072). The venue hosted professional lacrosse games in 2015, and was recently awarded the 2025 and 2026 NCAA Men’s and Division I Women’s Lacrosse Championships.

Kraft Group President-International Dan Kraft, who was a collegiate lacrosse goalie for Tufts University in the 1980s and served on the executive Board of the 2018 Federation of International Lacrosse’s World Championships Host Committee, expressed his continued support for the league and its ongoing potential to further grow the sport in the New England region and throughout the country.

“We are thrilled to continue our incredible partnership with Paul and Mike Rabil and the Premier Lacrosse

League and once again host the league’s opening weekend at Gillette Stadium this summer,” Kraft said. “We sincerely missed hosting professional lacrosse in 2020 and cannot wait to welcome the world’s best lacrosse players back to Foxborough in 2021 for an exciting opening weekend. We feel Gillette Stadium is the country’s preeminent lacrosse venues and look forward to hosting another world-class event promoting the sport in such a large and passionate lacrosse region.”

Under the Commonwealth of Massachusetts’ reopening plan, Gillette Stadium will safely welcome fans to each game, and tickets are available now for all five games at Ticketmaster.com.

The PLL will work with its venue partners to maintain compliance with local and state governance regarding health and safety best practices. This will include standardized week-end-to-weekend health and safety measures, including but not limited to: seating pods, social distancing, enhanced venue cleaning, mobile ticketing, hand sanitation stations, staff and attendee mask requirements. Similar to the 2020 season, the PLL will be working with a committee of medical professionals to develop health and safety protocols for all players, staff and fans. For more information about the PLL and the 2021 season, visit www.premierlacrosseleague.com.

MIAA from page 8

tournaments. It is not known exactly what the formula will be, but it could be a modified version of the Walker system, a ranking system utilized by teams from Western Massachusetts for tournaments. The system was developed for use due to the vast diversity among the schools in the region.

The proposal also says any 1A tournament must be single elimination tournaments. There are currently no

multi-elimination tournaments with the exception of consolation rounds for wrestlers. But that is an individual, not a team tournament.

According to the proposal, data will be analyzed in the next four years in order to see if dominance exists in particular sports and if there is a need to establish the elite tournament across the state.

There was a 12-2 vote approving the proposal and recommending it to the MIAA Board of Directors.

5 reasons why summer camp is a good choice for kids

Summer vacation offers students a respite from lessons and the routine of school. Children might once have eagerly awaited those final days of classes so they could lounge poolside, skip rocks across ponds and spend the long days of the season playing with friends. But many of today's youngsters spend much of their summer vacations indoors playing with their digital devices.

Perhaps that's why one of the last vestiges of the classic summer vacation escape — summer camp — remains such a viable option for parents who want their children to get outdoors once the school year ends.

Although kids needn't be in camp all summer long, a week or two can benefit campers of all ages. The following are five reasons why summer camp might be the right fit this year.

1. Explore talents. Summer camps help young people explore their unique interests and talents. Under an organized, yet often easygoing, camp schedule, kids can dabble in sports, arts and crafts, leadership, community support, and so many other activities that may not be fully available to them elsewhere.

2. Physical activity: Lots of camps build their itineraries around physical activities that takes place outdoors. Campers may spend their time swimming, running, hiking, playing sports, climbing, and so much more. This can be a welcome change for kids accus-

tomed to living sedentary lifestyles. Regular physical activity has many health benefits and can set a foundation for healthy habits as an adult.

3. Gain confidence. Day and sleep-away camps offer campers the opportunity to get comfortable in their own skin. Camps can foster activities in self-esteem by removing the academic measures of success and fill in with noncompetitive opportunities to succeed. Campers learn independence, decision-making skills and the ability to thrive outside of the shadow of their parents, siblings or other students.

4. Try new things. Camp gives children the chance to try new things, whether that's learning to cook, exploring new environments or embracing a new sport or leisure activity. Opening oneself up to new opportunities can build character and prove enlightening for children.

5. Make new friends. Camp is a great place to meet new people and make lifelong friends. Campers flood in from areas near and far. This provides kids with a chance to expand their social circles beyond their immediate neighborhoods and schools.

Camps benefit children in a variety of ways. Lessons learned in camp can strengthen values, build confidence, develop coping mechanisms when adversity strikes, and enable campers to make lifelong friends.



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How to help kids make friends at school

The average student likely spends more time at school and participating in extracurricular activities with classmates than he or she does at home. In close proximity to so many peers, it may seem like making friends would be a snap. However, some students have trouble connecting and can use a little push to make friends.

The family and parenting resource Parenting Science notes that research indicates that the most popular children are those who exemplify certain traits. These traits include being caring; a willingness to share; a willingness to offer help; and strong verbal skills. Children who embrace these traits may prove better at making friends. Parents may find that youngsters need some encouragement to build their social circles, and the following are some ways parents can offer that encouragement.

- Encourage kids to seek out someone on their own. It may be challenging to walk up to a group and introduce yourself. Encourage students to seek out someone who is alone and then strike up a conversation, which can be less intimidating than approaching a group. Emphasize to kids that other students may also be a little shy and looking to make friends.
- Practice conversation starters at home. Children can work with their parents to come up with topics that can help foster communication. These can include ice breakers and common interests, such as favorite television shows or video games.
- Teach kids approachable body lan-

guage. Wearing earbuds or exhibiting negative body language, such as crossed arms or avoiding eye contact, can make a person seem less approachable. Smiling, engaging in conversation and being friendly can make it easier to make friends.

- Ask teachers to help. The education resource Understood says teachers can give children responsibilities, such as the opportunity to hand out snacks or papers, which can build confidence and provide opportunities for kids to converse with their peers.
- Help children be active listeners. An active listener is someone who makes it clear that he or she is paying attention. Making eye contact, orienting the body toward the speaker and making relevant verbal responses are some active listening strategies that can help kids more fully engage with their peers. Feeling valued and listened to may encourage other children to be more friendly and engaging.
- Ask open questions. The social networking advisement site Young Scot suggests having students ask open questions, such as: "How was your summer?" or "What sports do you like to play?" These types of

questions can kick-start in-depth conversations.

- Join a team or club. Students often make friends in social or extracurricular settings, such as on a sports team. With a shared interest, it's easy to find topics to discuss.

Making friends in school can make time spent in the classroom more enjoyable for youngsters.



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Obituaries

Death notices

Motyka, Joseph J.
Died April 16, 2021
Private services
Cebula Funeral Home
Ware

Rzeznik, Joseph Wladyslaw
Died April 14, 2021
Future service
Cebula Funeral Home
Ware

Ware River News
OBITUARY
POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

Joseph J. Motyka

WARE – In loving memory of Joseph J. Motyka, who left this world on April 16, 2021. He was the son of the late John E. Motyka, and his mother, Ann (Cebula) Motyka.

He leaves his daughter, Amara Motyka, his brother, Thomas E. Motyka, and his sisters, Tammy Ann Carver and Laurie Ann Wilkinson. He was predeceased by his brother Johnny Motyka. Joe also leaves behind his girlfriend, Amanda Cristina, along with a special friend, Elaine Motyka.

Joe loved all outdoor activities, especially fishing. He was a fishing lure and pole tester for several sports magazines and outlets. Joe recently acquired his Federal Aviation drone license.

His passing has affected many people who knew and loved Joey. Now he is in God’s arms and God



said, “Well Done Joe,” now you can enter my kingdom, and have eternal life forever.

Joe will be laid to rest privately. Cebula Funeral Home is assisting his family with the final arrangements. For more information and online guest book, please visit www.cebulafuneralhome.com.

Joseph Wladyslaw Rzeznik

WARE – Joseph Wladyslaw Rzeznik, age 84, beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, passed away on April 14, 2021, at Baystate Hospital in Springfield.

Joseph was born in Podlipie, Poland on June 2, 1936, son of the late Michael and Maria Rzeznik. He was raised and educated in Poland, and emigrated to the United States of America in 1964.

Joseph was educated in Poland as a mechanical engineer, he applied that knowledge for over 30 years as the foreman for the Gillespie Corporation in Ware. He was known as an extremely hard worker and a devoted family man. Joseph was a faithful Roman Catholic, he was a communicant of St. Mary’s Church in Ware for 57 years, and for 20 of those years he sang in its

Polish Choir.

Joseph is survived by his beloved wife of almost 65 years, Helen (Ciukaj) Rzeznik, his loving children, son, George Rzeznik, of Wilbraham, and daughters, Anna Courchesne and Diane LaForest, both of Ware. He also leaves behind his beloved grandchildren, Joseph Harper, Jennifer Harper, Andrew Rzeznik, Dorothy Rzeznik, Daemeon LaForest and Lily LaForest, and great-grandchild, Mason Harper. Joseph leaves behind his brother and two sisters and extended family in Poland.

A funeral Mass for Joseph will be held at a future date. For more information and an online guest book, please visit www.cebulafuneralhome.com.

Celebrating trees for Arbor Day

EQLT to offer Trees Are Treasures

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

REGION – With National Arbor Day taking place April 30, a day for celebrating the importance of trees, the need for town clean ups and tree planting has increased for Western Mass residents such as Lorraine Wisniewski.

Wisniewski said as someone who has been responsible for working to revitalize the Three Rivers area, including placing planters on Main Street, she tries to share her passion for increasing the number of trees in the area. Wisniewski said for this Arbor Day, she would like to inspire as many people as she can to plant trees across town and at their homes for several reasons.

“One reason to plant is to improve the environment and the air we breathe, a place for the birds and for shade during the summer,” Wisniewski said.

“Other benefits to having trees around your home is reducing air conditioning costs, increased wild-life habitat, an increased aesthetic of your home and increased property value.”

She also said planting trees at home reduces soil erosion.

Arborist and owner of Ganesh Tree and Plant Healthcare Joseph Kowalski said the types of trees which could be planted depend on the location.

“There’s a very famous saying, ‘right tree for right place,’” Kowalski said.

“You want to make sure you don’t plant a tree too big some-place under (utility) wires or too close to a building.”

He also said visiting the Arbor Day website (arborday.org) would



Residents across western Massachusetts will have the opportunity to celebrate the importance and value of trees, and possibly planting some of their own, on April 30. Hardwick’s East Quabbin Land Trust will be holding a woodland treasure hunt called Trees Are Treasures on April 24 and 25.

help determine what trees are appropriate, as well as where they can be planted.

“Two major choices you have to make is if you want it to be native or non-native and the right tree for the right place,” Kowalski said.

“There can be a suitable red maple in one place and it would be totally inappropriate in another. You could also have a crab apple tree, which would be great in a number of locations.”

EQLT Trees Are Treasures

Another way Western Massachusetts residents are honoring Arbor Day is through Grassroots Central Mass. This volunteer program, which focuses on issues such as climate change, will be collaborating with the East Quabbin Land Trust for Trees Are Treasures. This woodland treasure hunt will be taking place in

Hardwick on April 24 and 25.

A celebration of Earth Day and Arbor Day, the event is a forest treasure hunt and a fun, free way to gain appreciation for the forest environment and the roles it plays for our personal and environmental health. Grassroots Central Mass has spread this outdoor event over two days to keep everyone COVID-safe. Visit the trailside treasures and you can go home with a free sugar maple or red bud tree seedling.

There will also be an environmental book swap: Bring one, take one, or both.

There is no charge for this event, held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days in cooperation with East Quabbin Land Trust at EQLT’s Patril Hollow preserve, Route 32A (Hardwick Road) entrance, in Hardwick. For more information on the event, visit grassrootscentralmass.com.

public notices

NOTICE TO ABUTTERS COMMUNITY OUTREACH PUBLIC MEETING TOWN OF WARE, MA.

Notice is hereby given that a Public Community OutReach Meeting for Minuteman Farm, LLC, 24 East Main St., (known as the Mill Yard lot 114) Ware, Ma 01082, being

a cannabis cultivation facility, is scheduled for **Friday, May 7, 2021 at 7:00 PM** at the vacant lot located at the address above. All are welcome to attend and ask any questions regarding the project or e-mail any questions or concerns to robertbarryj@gmail.com. 04/22, 04/29/2021

MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Fermin Diaz to Country Bank for Savings dated November 3, 2017 and recorded with the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 12796, Page 186, of which mortgage the undersigned

is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **11:00 a.m. on the 20th day of May, 2021**, on the mortgaged premises believed to be known as 29 Prospect Street, Ware, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

“A certain tract or parcel of land, together with the buildings thereon, on the northerly line of Prospect Street in said Ware, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the northerly line of said Prospect Street, at the southeasterly corner of premises now or formerly of George H. Pariseau et ux;

Thence North 35° East along last named land, one hundred forty-five (145) feet, more or less, to a point;

Thence South 49° 45’ East, eight and 3/10 (8.3) feet, more or less, to a point,

Thence North 30° 45 East, thirteen (13) feet, more or less, to a point at

land formerly of George W. Kennedy;

Thence Easterly on last named land, sixty-eight and one-half (68 1/2) feet, more or less, to an iron pin at land formerly of Lizzie A. Wesson;

Thence Southwesterly on last named, one hundred sixty-seven (167) feet, more or less, to the northerly line of Prospect Street aforesaid;

Thence North 48° 38’ West on said Prospect Street, fifty-four and 5/10 (54.5) feet, more or less, to the point of beginning.

For title see deed recorded herewith.”

The premises will be sold subject to any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record superior to the mortgage, if any. Said premises will also be sold subject to all leases and tenancies having priority over said mortgage, to tenancies or occupation by persons on the premises now and at the time of said auction which tenancies or occupation are

subject to said mortgage, to rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the premises, also to all laws and ordinances including, but not limited to, all building and zoning laws and ordinances. It shall be the bidder’s sole responsibility to ascertain all items described in this paragraph and no representations are made concerning compliance with applicable zoning, building, sanitary or other state and/or municipal regulations.

TERMS OF SALE: TEN THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$10,000.00) DOLLARS will be required to be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier’s check by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance of the purchase price in connection with the sale shall be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier’s check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale and the Deed transferred contemporaneously therewith at which time the purchaser shall also pay directly to the auctioneer a buyer’s premium equal to five percent (5%) of

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All public notices to be published in the *Ware River News* should be sent directly to notices@turley.com. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call 413-283-8393.

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the purchase price. The purchaser at the sale shall be required to sign a Memorandum of terms of sale containing the above terms at the Auction sale. The purchaser will be responsible for all closing costs, Massachusetts deed excise stamps and all recording fees.

The sale may be postponed or adjourned from time to time, if necessary, by the attorney for the mortgagee at the scheduled time and place of sale. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, will be announced at the sale.

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Jonathan C. Sapirstein
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Its Attorneys
Date: April 12, 2021
04/15, 04/22, 04/29/2021

COMMUNITY OUTREACH MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a Community Outreach Meeting for a proposed Marijuana Establishment is scheduled for **May 9, 2021 at 6 p.m.** at 124 West Street, Unit D, Ware MA 01082. The proposed Medical Marijuana license to become a Co-located retail store is to be located at our currently operating adult use location 124 West Street, Unit D, Ware MA 01082. There will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions. 04/22/2021

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Ocean surface indicator (abbr.)
4. American time
7. Satisfaction
8. Diving duck
10. Very small amount
12. Metrical units
13. An ignorant or foolish person
14. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
16. It may sting you
17. Turn outward
19. Perform on stage
20. “CSI” actor George
21. Localities
25. Make a choice
26. Indicates position
27. One of Thor’s names

29. Indian musical rhythmic pattern
30. “The Raven” author
31. Take in solid food
32. Legendary QB
39. Sorrels
41. Organization of nations
42. Texas pharmaceutical company
43. Mathematical term
44. Expression of disappointment
45. Abba __, Israeli politician
46. Hide away
48. Salad restaurant
49. Daughters of Boreas (mythology)
50. Men’s fashion

accessory

51. Political action committee
52. Unhappy

CLUES DOWN

1. Make unhappy
2. Heard the confession of
3. Capital of Taiwan
4. Fiddler crab
5. Brazilian dances
6. Fit with device to assist breathing
8. Brother or sister
9. Pastries
11. “Lone Survivor” director Peter
14. Boat type (abbr.)
15. Apertures (biology)
18. Suffix
19. Creative endeavor
20. Icelandic poem

22. Spanish dances
23. Town in Central Italy
24. Cars need it
27. Mimics
28. Rocky peak
29. Cigarette (slang)
31. One point south of due east
32. Soap actress Braun
33. Large domesticated wild ox
34. Island nation
35. Appear
36. Addictive practices
37. Loss of control of one’s body
38. Type of poster
39. Greek mountain
40. Funny person
44. One and only
47. Pouch

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TAG SALE

RUTLAND, MASS 25TH ANNUAL TOWN WIDE YARD SALE. Sat. April 24 - 250+ participants. Maps at town lines and on Common (Rts 122A and 56) starting at 7:15 AM. Rain or Shine. Join the Fun!

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QUABBIN & SUBURBAN FRIDAY AT NOON

HILLTOWNS MONDAY AT NOON

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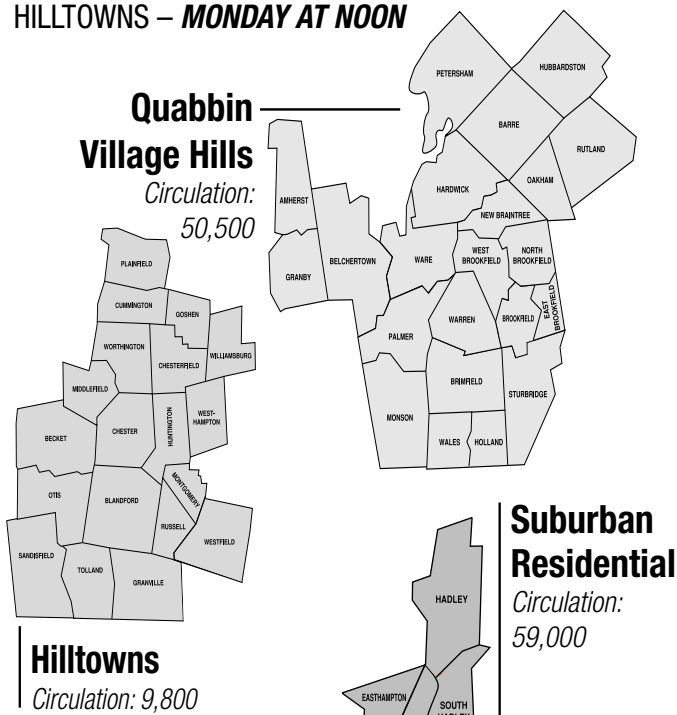
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CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
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17	18	19	20
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